Tamper-proof number plates

2349. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been made mandatory to use tamper-proof number plates for motor vehicles; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) These High Security Registration Plates would include the following features:

(i) A Chromium hologram, which is not easily replicable.

(ii) A Retro reflective film, bearing a verification inscription: "INDIA" at 45 degree inclination, which cannot be easily replicated.

(iii) Laser Numbering, which is unique in nature containing alphanumeric identification of both Testing Agencies and the manufacturers.

(iv) In front and rear registration plates, letter "IND" in blue colour is hot stamped on extreme left centre of the plates.

(v) In case of rear registration plate, same is to be fitted with a non-reusable snap lock to make it tamper proof.

(vi) A chromium based third registration plate in form of sticker is to be attached to wind shield, wherein the number of engine and chassis are indicated alongwith the name of the registering authority.

Overbridge on National Highway-8

†2350. SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have started construction of an overbridge from Vapi to Kamrej on National Highway-8 in Gujarat;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) by when the construction work is likely to be completed; and

(d) the total cost estimated to be incurred on this work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. the construction of four flyovers and nine under-passes from Vapi to Kamrej on National Highway-8 in Gujarat have been taken up, out of which three flyovers at Vapi, Galaxy, Dharampur and 9 under-passes have been constructed. The construction work of remaining one flyover at Navasari is in progress and scheduled for completion by March, 2005.

(d) The total estimated cost of 4 flyovers and 9 under passes is approximately Rs. 105 crores.

International container transhipment terminal

2351. SHRI MOTILAL VORA. Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to develop some international container transhipment terminal at some major ports;

(b) if so, the major ports where these international Container transhipment terminals are being set up; and

(c) the steps taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) It has been decided to develop an international Container Transhipment Terminal (ICTT) at Cochin Port. Towards this end, the Government has conveyed its sanction to the proposal of Cochin Port Trust (CoPT) for award of the contract for development and operation of ICTT in Cochin Port on Build, Operate and Transfer (BOT) basis to M/s Dubai Port International, Dubai, UAE (EPI) on the 9th September, 2004. CoPT was, *inter alia,* requested to take further action to expeditiously start work on the project. DPI, with whom CoPT took up the matter, requested for certain concessions/facilities which are in addition to what has been provided for in the draft License Agreement which had earlier been finalised after discussions between CoPT and the prospective bidders during pre-bid meetings before submission of the price